

September-October Strikes & Elections in Cusco

Updated: September 21, 2010

The U.S. Embassy wishes to alert U.S. citizens residing and traveling in and around Cusco, Peru of possible travel difficulties due to strikes and political demonstrations in the weeks prior to the upcoming October 3 municipal elections. The Peru Rail tourism train between Cusco and Machu Picchu will be closed Tuesday September 21 and Wednesday 22 due to transportation strikes. Travelers should be aware of possible impediments or delays to their travel in this region, particularly in the lead up to the October 3 elections, and remain flexible in their plans.

Demonstrations in Peru are often peaceful, but can quickly escalate into violent confrontations. American citizens are advised to avoid large crowds and demonstrations and are strongly encouraged to maintain a high level of vigilance, maintain awareness of local events and their surroundings, and take the appropriate steps to bolster their personal security. It is illegal in Peru for foreigners to participate in demonstrations. American citizens who have been caught up in political demonstrations in Peru have been detained and expelled.

You can stay in touch and get Embassy updates by checking the Embassy Lima [website](#). You can also get global updates at the U.S. Department of State's, [Bureau of Consular Affairs](#) website where you can find the current Worldwide Caution, Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and Country Specific Information. If you don't have internet access, the Department of State has a call center for updates: (1-888) 407-4747 toll-free in the U.S. and Canada or outside the U.S. and Canada on a regular toll line at (1-202) 501-4444.

The U.S. Consular Agency in Cusco, Peru, can be found at Avenida Pardo 845, Cusco. The office can be reached by phone at (51-84) 231-474, and is open Monday thru Friday, excluding [U.S. and Peruvian holidays](#), 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. For any emergencies involving American citizens, please contact the American Citizens Services (ACS) Unit of the U.S. Embassy's Consular Section, located in Monterrico, a suburb of Lima, at Avenida La Encalada, Block Seventeen; telephone (51-1) 618-2000 during business hours from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. or for after-hours emergencies; fax (51-1) 618-2397, or 618-2724 (American Citizen Services Unit); Internet website at <http://lima.usembassy.gov/>. The Consular Section is open for American Citizens Services, from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. weekdays, excluding [U.S. and Peruvian holidays](#).